this service are discussed by the the designated authorities of the two countries and by the two Governments through diplomatic channels.

Indo-Iran relations

2618. SHRI DEVDAS APTE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indo-Iran relations are getting worse day by day;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that US Government are putting pressure to stop Indo-Iran pipeline project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) to what extent Government think that US pressure interferes India's Foreign Policy and its interests?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) No.

(e) India's relations with any country are independent of its relations with a third country. Government's foreign policy is guided by India's national interests.

Anti-Terror Mechanism with Pakistan

2619. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Anti-Terror Mechanism with Pakistan has been finalized;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken note of the reservations expressed in media by the experts on security and strategy issues;

(d) the details of Government's response on such apprehensions; and

(e) whether the mandate of such mechanism and whether resources and processes to achieve the mandate have been decided?